Indo-Myanmar Pipeline Project

2190. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR:
SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:
SHRI LALIT SURI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Bangladesh has cleared a pipeline through its territorial area for transporting gas to India from Myanmar where ONGC and GAIL have stakes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the transit fee that India has to pay to Bangladesh for laying the pipeline in transporting gas through this pipeline?

* THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) GAIL (India) Ltd., (GAIL) and ONGC Videsh Limited (OVL) are consortium partners with Daewoo International and Kagos of South Korea in Offshore Block A-1 in Myanmar, where commercial gas has been discovered in January, 2004. However, the block is still under exploration stage and extractable reserves have not been established. For transporting the natural gas from Myanmar there are multiple options, including an onland pipeline transiting through Bangladesh.

(b) The options are being considered and the Government of Bangladesh will be approached in due course, if required

(c) Does not arise.

Welfare Schemes of IOC for SCs/STs/OBCs

2191. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount sanctioned for taking up welfare schemes for the benefit of SCs and STs and other Backward Classes by the Indian Oil Corporation in Karnataka during 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04,

(b) the details of the schemes taken up and the amount spent during the above period;

(c) whether there is any proposal to enhance the amount during 2004-05 for these activities; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?